

## Jewish Healing Month at Ruach Ami

**Ruach Ami:** The Bay Area Jewish Healing Center is sponsoring its third annual Jewish Healing Month. Throughout May, several community-wide events will focus on Jewish healing. Attend for your own personal healing or to learn more about what is going on in the field of Jewish healing.

*Misheberach: The Art of Jewish Healing*, through June 6 at the Jewish Community Library. Jewish artists show us their understanding of Jewish healing. CSZ member Rena Frantz's work is part of the show. Co-sponsored by Ruach Ami and the Jewish Community Library.

*Refu'ah Sh'leimah: An Evening of Jewish Healing Music*, Sunday, May 9, 6:30 pm at Congregation Beth Sholom. You don't need a great voice to participate. Co-sponsored by Ami Goodman's monthly kumsitz group.

*Struggles in Our Lives: How Judaism Helps*, Tuesday, May 11, 7:30 pm at Congregation Emanu-El. A panel discussion on people's experiences of using Judaism in their healing process.

*Grief and Growing: A Healing Weekend for Bereaved Individuals and Families*, May 14-16, at Camp Tawonga. For people in mourning to come together for mutual support and comfort within a Jewish framework. Co-sponsored by Jewish Family and Children's Service, Ruach Ami and Camp Tawonga.

*Healing Prayer Service*, Monday, May 17, 6 pm at CSZ. This monthly service is designed for those who are struggling physically, emotionally or spiritually, searching for a place to grieve and seeking comfort or guidance.

*Azkarah: A Yiskor Service of Healing and Memory*, Tuesday, May 18, 6 pm at Congregation Sherith Israel. Ruach Ami Rabbis Eric Weiss and Miriam Senturia will lead this community-wide memorial service.

For more information about any of these programs, call Ruach Ami at 750-4197.

## Weekly Shabbat Morning Services Begin in May

How would you like an opportunity to observe Shabbat with meditation? How about a Shabbat morning filled with celebratory music? Or an exploration of Jewish humor for Shabbat? Perhaps a gathering to bake challah in the synagogue kitchen while davening Shacharit?

Beginning May 8, CSZ will hold Shabbat morning (shacharit) services and activities every week at 10 am.

Until now, CSZ has had regularly scheduled Shabbat shacharit services only on the second Saturday of each month. We will continue with a traditional shacharit service, including Torah reading, on May 8, and on the second Saturday of each subsequent month.

However, on the first, third, fourth (and fifth, if necessary) Saturdays of the month, we will explore different ways to make Shabbat meaningful, with alternative services, observances and activities.

*May 15, Ecology Shabbat:* The service will be intermixed with readings, discussions and music focused on ecology. How can we make choices in our lives that will respect the world around us? (An eco-kashruth oneg is planned.) Led by Barak Gale.

*May 22, Shabbat Kumsitz:* First, there will be song and celebration of the Shabbat, along with core elements of a shacharit service. Then congregants will

*Continued on page 8*

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

## Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 16 • 3 pm • CSZ

## Omer Meditation Continues

The omer is the period of 49 days between Passover and Shavuot which symbolically mirrors the time our people wandered in the desert before reaching Sinai and receiving the Torah. As we continue counting the omer this month, we also continue our communal meditation on Wednesdays at 6 pm at CSZ, led by Renée Bauer.

According to Kabbalistic tradition, each day of the omer is associated with a combination of two of the seven sephirot, attributes of God, which we use as a daily meditation. We use these meditations as spiritual preparation for the revelation we are to experience on Shavuot. There is an omer meditation guide available at the synagogue if you would like to learn more about the omer and meditate on your own. If you have not begun counting the omer, it is not too late to come by for evening meditation during this sacred season on May 5, 12 or 19.

## Shavuot 5759

Shavuot, which begins this year on May 20, celebrates our receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai. It is said that Jews of all generations were at Mount Sinai and that each year on Shavuot we experience the revelation anew. It is customary, according to the mystical tradition, to study Torah late into the night on Shavuot at what is called a Tikkun Leyl Shavuot. By studying late into the night, we reach an altered spiritual consciousness (people who attended last year's Tikkun Leyl Shavuot will attest to this) and, hopefully, experience our own revelation while celebrating the gift of Torah. We will celebrate Shavuot this year on Thursday, May 20. We will begin at 7 pm with a dairy potluck. Our Shavuot service will follow at 8 pm and then we will hold a Tikkun Leyl Shavuot from 9 pm-midnight.

## Special Meeting

—David Gellman, First Vice President  
Diana Buchbinder is away on a short vacation and asked me to write this column in her absence. (I think it is a disguised leadership training exercise, but what do I know? This is my first effort at a *Forward* column. If you feel I should never, ever, write one again, please let our Editor know soon, before she asks me to do this on a monthly basis!)

For those of you who attended the special Va'ad meeting on March 29, I thank you for your generous participation. I also congratulate you on your participation at a meeting which will become a part of our Congregation's history as a model of such CSZ values as concern and respect for differing individual views. For those of you who could not attend, let me briefly describe what you missed.

The special Va'ad meeting was called to offer members an opportunity to address the Va'ad and to hear each other on the question of renewal of Rabbi Litman's contract. Some issues were not discussed, either due to the confidential nature of employment matters or at the request of various individuals involved. Even so, a broad range of opinion and concerns was expressed, from which I observed very positive results. The members who attended the meeting gained insight into the complexity of the questions and the diversity of views. Perhaps they came to a better understanding of how difficult the task is of determining whether there is a successful "fit" between a Congregation and its rabbi.

If the March 29 meeting gave the congregation a new perspective on what the Va'ad does, the Va'ad members, who listened and did not speak, gained valuable insight into how much our congregation has matured and how capable its members are of engaging in constructive and open dialogue in a public forum. For those of you who may not know or remember, it has not always been thus. We have a fractious history; for many years our ever-growing congregation of intelligent, vocal, opinionated and broadly diverse Jews has struggled on varied issues to reconcile deeply held personal convictions with a passion for decision by consensus.

I do not think this transformation is accidental or simply a product of time

or membership size. Rather, I believe it is the legacy of many dedicated members, who over the past two decades have recognized and taught the values and skills necessary to function as a group, seeking outside counsel and expertise when necessary and remembering and learning from our past mistakes and successes. This transformation has been evident in the collegial atmosphere of Va'ad meetings, the efficiency of our committees of dedicated members, and the depth of our leadership training, including the annual Advance (retreat). I am convinced that the miracle of fundraising and planning which resulted in our beautiful new Mishkan Dolores represents a direct and tangible benefit of this transformation.

I also do not think the transformation is complete. New members join us, seasoned members move on to other pursuits and, sadly, friends depart. Our community changes and grows and, while none of us is granted a prophetic view of the future, I am encouraged and strengthened by the support for a common goal and respect for individual feel-

ings that was so evident in our March 29 meeting. The Va'ad members left the meeting feeling that a new partnership is evolving between the leadership and membership of our congregation, one which will involve deeper communication, with greater trust and understanding all around. Diana and I invite you to join us at the annual meeting on May 16 to experience this feeling firsthand.

## New Member Potluck

**Reminder:** The New Member Potluck will be Sunday, May 2, 4–6 pm, in the Oneg Room. We will also recognize and formally welcome new members during Shabbat services on Friday, May 7.

## Do you have e-mail?

Drop us a line at  
[shaarzahav@igc.apc.org](mailto:shaarzahav@igc.apc.org)

**Litigation  
Estate Planning  
Personal Injury  
Business Law  
Probate  
Real Estate  
Employment  
discrimination**

**Legal  
Help**

**Goldstein, Gellman, Melbostad, Gibson & Harris, LLP**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

100 Van Ness  
21st Floor  
San Francisco  
California  
94102

  
**Call David Gellman**  
**415-621-5600**

## Social Action/Tikkun Olam

### Biking and Building

The Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee needs volunteers for two special projects this month.

#### Ron Wilmot Bike Ride For Project Inform

Now in its fifth year, the Ron Wilmot Bike Ride for Project Inform is a fun-filled seven-mile ride to raise money for Project Inform's HIV/AIDS treatment information and education programs. Our beloved member, Ron Wilmot, z"l, started the bike ride in 1995 with the hope of ensuring that information about life-saving treatment continues to reach people throughout the Bay Area and around the country. Before losing his own battle against HIV, Ron challenged his family, friends and community to continue organizing a local ride for people of all abilities. His special wish was that people living with HIV become actively involved with the ride and Project Inform. Last year, riders raised over \$60,000, of which 99% went directly to support Project Inform's services.

The Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee wants to support Ron's vision by making CSZ an official participant in the ride, which will take place on Saturday, May 8 in Golden Gate Park. CSZ riders and volunteers will begin the day by gathering at CSZ for a special Shabbat morning service in memory of Ron at 7 am. Following the service, we will head to Golden Gate Park together. You can participate in this mitzvah project in a number of ways. Volunteer with the Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee at the registration booth, at the refreshment area or in the cheering section that supports the riders. You can ride or sponsor a rider. To volunteer, call Allan Berenstein at 863-8033. To sign up for the ride, call Julie Doherty at Project Inform at 558-8669 x223. To sponsor a CSZ rider, call Renée in the CSZ office. You can also send a donation directly to Project Inform at 205 13th Street, Suite 2001, San Francisco, CA 94103.

#### Habitat for Humanity Communities of Faith Day

Last October we took part in San Francisco Habitat for Humanity's initiative to gather volunteer support from faith communities in San Francisco. As a result, CSZ will volunteer with Habitat for Humanity on Sunday, May 23, during its Communities of Faith Month. We will

send a team of volunteers to help build the new houses that Habitat is constructing in the Bayview district. You need no special skills to volunteer. Simply call Renée in the CSZ office to sign up.

### St. Paulus Shelter Meals

—Laura Lowe, Social Action/Tikkun Olam Co-Chair

On March 14, 15 and 16, generous volunteers from CSZ cooked dinner and fed 25 homeless men at St. Paulus Church. The program was part of the San Francisco Interfaith Council Shelter Program.

The well-balanced meals were beautifully put together. Each night we were able to offer a different main course. We even came up with desserts. It is wonderful to be able to provide hungry people with a good meal. We even had enough to offer seconds to everyone.

The shelter residents appreciated all our hard work and planning; they applauded our meal preparation and service. On behalf of the residents of the St. Paulus Shelter, we would like to thank all of our volunteers. On behalf of the Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee, we want you to know that you continue to amaze us with your generosity and your willingness to help out.

We would also like to extend an extra thank you to Kadimah students, who took on the tasks of cooking and serving for Tuesday night. It is wonderful to have young people and their families involved in our projects.

### Tenderloin Todah Rabah

The Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee thanks the volunteers who made our Purim lunch at the Tenderloin Outreach Project. A special todah rabah goes to Michael Ritz, the owner of Church Street Flowers, for his donation of flowers which added an extra special touch to the lunch tables.



### Don't Forget!

Please bring toiletries to donate to our neighbors!

### Shtick!

Sara Felder, San Francisco's best loved Jewish lesbian juggler and long-time CSZ member, brings her sharp wit and insightful eye to the dizzying, rupturing, dare-we-hope unifying questions of contemporary life in her new play, *Shtick!*



Sara Felder

*Shtick!* is a colorful and hilarious mosaic of comic clowning and searing satire. It features a clown called Sadie Falls, a juggler with attitude whose boom box blasts Hava Nagila, a nearly century-old Yiddish play with a twist that could make a hipster plotz, dykes on bikes with tykes on trikes, granddaughters of Bundists swaying with the Holy Torah at the Western Wall and two women living at opposite ends of the 20th century who share a history and an identity. Queer and unashamedly in love with Yiddishkeit, Felder will take you bit by bit, shtick by shtick, from radical contemporary performance to gender-bending vaudeville theater.

*Shtick!* plays Thursday-Sunday nights plus Sunday matinees, April 29-May 30, at A Traveling Jewish Theatre in San Francisco. Call 399-1809 for information and ticket reservations.

### Social Action/Tikkun Olam Calendar

Mark your calendars and sign up for a Social Action/Tikkun Olam project now. Call either Laura Lowe (247-2409) or Allan Berenstein (863-8033) to volunteer or for more information about any of the following:

- May 8: Ron Wilmot Bike Ride for Project Inform
- May 23: Habitat for Humanity Communities of Faith Workday
- June 13: Dolores Street Shelter Dinner
- August: Back to School Supplies Drive with San Francisco Department of Family and Children's Services
- October 17: Susan B. Koman Race for the Cure

## March 8 Va'ad Minutes

—Joe Hample, Recorder

In lieu of a devar Torah, Rabbi Litman noted that March 8 was International Women's Day and asked everyone to identify women role models. Some named historical figures like Emma Goldman, Emma Lazarus or Rosa Parks; others cited friends or relatives who exemplified qualities of love, strength, humor, courage, integrity and self-acceptance.

Rabbi Litman reported two baby namings, one birth, one aufruf and wedding, one get (divorce) and two shiv'ah minyans.

Program Director Renée Bauer reported successful recent classes and Social Action projects to collect toiletries for the homeless, feed Jewish seniors in the Tenderloin and feed the homeless at St. Paulus Shelter March 14-16. She advised the Va'ad that she may leave CSZ this year to attend rabbinical school.

Administrator Lea Salem was working from home for a while. She is back at 290 Dolores and is drafting a building use policy. Lea identified the new Building and Grounds Committee—Art Cohen (chair), James Carlson, Steve Hauptman, Alex Ingersoll, Daphne Stuart and herself. CSZ's annual leadership Advance (retreat) will be held August 6-8 at the same place as last year, near Ukiah. The Fine Arts Committee is addressing decor issues, including where to hang pictures and plaques.

Educator David Shneer will be going on leave this year. We've advertised for an interim Educator, whom we hope will be ready to begin in August.

Jo Hirschmann and Elizabeth Wilson made a special presentation about a pro-

test "seder in the streets," April 3 in United Nations Plaza. The event will mobilize Jewish support for Mumia Abu-Jamal, a black journalist sentenced to death in a dubious Pennsylvania murder trial. The Va'ad is willing for Jo and Elizabeth to publicize the event at CSZ.

Treasurer Art Slepian reported that our surplus has been shrinking since January. The Capital Campaign is doing well, but the synagogue budget has a \$12,000 deficit this year, even after transferring \$20,000 from restricted funds. Arthur presented a first budget reading for fiscal year 1999-2000 reflecting discussion with all committee chairs. There will be no new staff positions next year, but we'll make the position of Youth Advisor permanent. We've negotiated a reduction in our expected dues to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), but day-to-day and High Holiday expenses have swollen, and we need to close a \$30,000 budget gap for next year.

Fortunately, membership is up to a record 420 households, and recent joiners will pay a full year's dues next year. High Holiday donations should rise next year for lack of competition with the matching gifts campaign. We might raise money by renting out the building and attracting "Friends of CSZ" donors. We could increase the building assessment (subject to a congregational vote) and raise more from oneg sponsors, newsletter and website advertising, and the Gift Shop. What about Friday night fundraising pitches, spotlighting specific programs supported by donations? If our full-time Program Director leaves, we might replace her with a part-timer.

## Striving for Bimah Diversity

—Lyssa Friedman, Ritual Chair

On Shabbat, do you dream of a hazan chanting in the Sephardic melody of your youth? Do you yearn to hear a Yemenite prayer from your childhood? Is there a tune left behind in your family's native India or Iraq that feels inscribed on your DNA? Do you feel excluded by Yiddish culture and matzah ball jokes?

The Ritual Committee wants to honor the many facets of Judaism. Help us expand our spoken and musical liturgy and integrate a variety of Jewish cultural experiences in our services, by joining us as we strive to create a truly inclusive bimah.

Would you like to lead services? Lead a prayer on Shabbat? Teach the Ritual Committee a new tune? Provide new interpretations of old prayers? Train service leaders at one of our bi-monthly Service Leaders Initiatives?

The Ritual Committee meets the last Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm, at the synagogue. Service leading experience is not required; a commitment to celebrate Judaism as a world religion is.

If you're interested, please contact me at [Lyssa1@pacbell.net](mailto:Lyssa1@pacbell.net) or call the synagogue office.

## East Bay Happenings

The East Bay Havurah continues to celebrate Shabbat on the third Friday of each month (except when there is a conflict with a special CSZ service). We will alternate monthly between our regular 8:15 pm service (June, August, October, December) and a 7 pm celebration with a potluck, candle lighting and zemirot—singing (May, July, September, November). This month, join us on May 21 at 7 pm at the home of Jerry Geffner, 7141 Pinehaven Road, Oakland. For directions, call Jerry at 510/653-3137.

Plans are underway for the East Bay Havurah to host a Havdalah potluck social. East Bay Havurah members and friends are invited to get together June 12, location TBA. To help work on this event, call Larry Wexler (510/523-6755) or Ida Kuluk (510/530-4673).

Other East Bay events this month:

- May 23: Dor Rishon's trip to Jack London Square (see article on page 5 for details).



NOW THAT THE CONGREGATION  
HAS A NEW HOME...IT'S YOUR  
TURN. CALL ME FOR AN  
APPOINTMENT.

**Deborah Udin**  
**ZEPHYR Real Estate**  
**(415) 552-9500 x122**  
email: [deudin@aol.com](mailto:deudin@aol.com)

*The Jewish Gaily Forward* is published 11 times a year (monthly with a combined July-August issue) by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, CA 94103-2262, 861-6932. Email: office@shaarzahav.org. To request permission to reprint material, contact Robin Leonard (841-0262 or robinl@nolo.com).

Members of the congregation receive the *Forward*. Nonmembers can receive a *Forward* subscription for \$18/year.

#### Members of the Newsletter Committee

*Chair and Editorial Coordinator:* Robin Leonard

*Layout Coordinator:* Rose Katz

*Editing/Proofreading/Layout:* Judith Cohen, Mark Greenberg, Peter Jacobs, Brian Jersky, Sarah Nathe, David Posner, Kevin W. Reames, Jacob Rothman, Karen Schiller, Tory Weiser

*Photography:* Michael Bettinger

*Advertising:* Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@earthlink.net)

*Typesetting:* David Lester, Mouse Type Inc.

*Printing:* Genesis Printing & Graphics

*Distribution:* Mail It Right

•

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California 94103, marked: attention *Forward* advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

May 1999/Volume 22, Issue 9.



## Chocolate Class Very Satisfying

Thank you Jeff Forman! Jeff's Pesakh baking class netted over \$800 for the Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign, as attendees spent the afternoon learning how to make French macaroons, chocolate soufflées, flourless chocolate torte and profiteroles with chocolate sauce and candied almonds. Chocolate was donated by Sharffen Berger Chocolate. All other ingredients were donated by Delfina Restaurant.

## Toiletries Collection Ongoing

When you walk into our building, note the big red bins adorned by the sign made by Kadimah's Kitah Bet class that reads "Personal Care Items for Our Neighbors." These bins are for you to fill with small bottles of shampoo, bars of soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash and tampons—hotel samples work well.

The Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee is collecting these items as part of CSZ's good neighbor program. The items will be distributed through the Dolores Street Community Services Dolores Street Shelter and the new shower program initiated by Metropolitan Community Church. The shelter wants to provide toiletries to people who get turned away from the shelter when beds are full. The shower program will provide showers once a week at Mission High School Gym for homeless people in the neighborhood.

The next time you travel or shop, remember our homeless neighbors and bring a personal care item with you to shul. It is an easy and important way to give tzedakah.

## Dor Rishon Reawakens for Spring

Calling all CSZ men! After a number of quiet months, Dor Rishon, CSZ's men's group, is jumping into spring with new energy. The group is sponsoring a Sunday morning trip to Jack London Square on May 23. The morning will begin with a wonderful outdoor Sunday Champagne Brunch at 11 am at El Toritos (Franklin & Water Streets, 510/835-9260). Following brunch, we will enjoy Jack London Square's Farmers' Market, which sells locally-grown foods that reflect the multicultural diversity of the Bay Area. While in Jack London Square, you can visit the Square's many shops, the famous Heinhold's First and Last Chance Saloon or the Jack London Museum. Or if you just feel like relaxing with the other CSZ men, you can sit back and enjoy the wonderful scene of San Francisco Bay and its sailing ships.

Men coming from San Francisco can make the day even more special by taking the Bay Ferry to Jack London Square. Ferries leaves San Francisco from both the Ferry Building and Fisherman's Wharf and will deposit passengers right at the Square. For ferry information call 510/522-3300.

For more information or to RSVP, call Bill Goldstein at 510/793-4283.

## HIV+ Support Group

CSZ has a monthly support group for members living with HIV/AIDS and their families and partners, in addition to quarterly Shabbat dinners.

Mark your calendars for the next support group meeting: Saturday, May 15 at 3 pm, location TBA.

For further information, please call the synagogue office.

## For All Things Judaic

**CHECK OUT THE GIFT SHOP**  
**FOUR BEAUTIFUL DISPLAY CASES FILLED WITH**  
**GREAT NEW MERCHANDISE**

Open Friday Nights 7:30-8:05 pm or by appointment call 861-6932



## March 29 Va'ad Minutes

Va'ad members Diana Buchbinder, David Gellman, Sara Haber, Joe Hample, Lisa Katz, Robin Leonard, Eileen Levy, Jacob Rothman, Arthur Slepian, David Stein, Robert Tat and Susan Tubbasing were present, along with about 100 other CSZ members. Va'ad members Ellie Cohen, Jeff Forman and Sarita Giroisser were absent, as were Contract Renewal Committee Chair Steve Berlin and Rabbi Litman.

Dev Felder Noily gave the *devar Torah*. She read from a book entitled *New Psalms*, by Deborah Perlman, selecting a psalm about community. The psalm addressed themes of growth, discovery and renewal.

Diana welcomed attendees and reminded everyone that they are free to attend all Va'ad meetings. This Va'ad meeting was announced by email (conventional mail to members unreachable by email); other Va'ad meetings are announced in the *Forward*.

Since November, Rabbi Litman and the Va'ad have been engaged in a process of performance evaluation and contract renewal discussions. Rabbi Litman's existing contract began in August 1997 and concludes in July 1999. The two-year duration permits both parties to determine if the match is successful. Steve Berlin, a labor lawyer and member of CSZ (but not of the Va'ad), has served as chief negotiator since November. Additional guidance has been provided by Rabbi Michael Berk, regional director of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC).

A mediation team from the National Commission on Rabbinical-Congregational Relations (NCRCR), a joint commission of the UAHC and Central Conference of American Rabbis, visited CSZ on February 15. Both Rabbi Berk and the NCRCR team upheld the authority of the Va'ad to make the contract renewal decision and advised against polling the congregation. This month, the Va'ad and Rabbi Litman negotiated a draft agreement defining the future of our relationship. After the open meeting, the Va'ad went into a closed session to vote on this agreement and forward it to Rabbi Litman for her signature. Rabbi Litman will write a letter to the congregation explaining the agreement and has asked the Va'ad not to publicize its contents prior to her letter.

Fifty-two congregants spoke at the meeting. Speakers showed great respect for the ground rules, speaking one at a time for no more than three minutes, avoiding cross talk and interruptions, maintaining Jewish values by forgoing hurtful speech, and respecting legal and ethical confidentiality requirements. Speakers tried not to repeat what had already been said, but rather to state that they agreed with so-and-so. The Va'ad was present to listen and did not respond.

Many praised Rabbi Litman; a few criticized her. Some members felt excluded, uninformed or unheard by the process of the last four months; several wondered why this meeting hadn't happened earlier. Others acknowledged that the process was imperfect, yet praised the elected leadership for doing its best. Unhappy parties were asked not to walk away from the congregation, but to get involved.

David Gellman thanked all who participated and reiterated that the Va'ad would meet to vote on ratifying the tentative agreement and would permit Rabbi Litman to make the terms public in her own way. He reminded everyone that the Va'ad members are members of the congregation. Several speakers mentioned the need for healing: David asked that we all help make this happen. We at CSZ believe in learning from experience. This meeting will become part of our collective experience, and all who attended participated in this bit of CSZ history.

The closed session followed.

*Editor's note: We invite your letters suggesting methods of healing and moving forward for our community. Responses that are not inflammatory, derogatory or otherwise inappropriate will be printed in upcoming issues of the Forward. If possible, please email your letters to [robinl@nolo.com](mailto:robinl@nolo.com). Otherwise, send your letters to CSZ, marked "Attn: Forward."*

## Lesbians and the Holocaust

CSZ is proud to co-sponsor the Northern California Holocaust Center's program entitled "Lesbians and the Holocaust: An Afternoon of Film and Discussion" on Sunday, May 16, 3-7:30 pm. While lesbians were not specifically targeted by the Nazi regime, because of women's status as reproductive vessels, the lesbian community did suffer greatly at the hands of the Nazis. The lives of individual lesbians were certainly affected and the community as a whole was shut down through book burnings, the closing of community spaces and the elimination of communications networks.

This unique program will feature two films that tell the stories of lesbians during the Holocaust. The first film, *Love Story*, is a true story of an unlikely love affair between an Aryan housewife and a woman in the Jewish underground resistance. The second film, *Novembermoon*, is the story of a woman's apparent Nazi collaboration that is actually a covert attempt to save the life of the Jewish woman she loves. A panel discussion will follow the films, featuring Claudia Schoppmann, author of *Days of Masquerade: Life Stories of Lesbians During the Third Reich*, and Erica Fischer, of *Aimee and Jaguar: A Love Story, Berlin 1943*.

The event will take place at the Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th Street at Mission. For more information or reservations, call the Holocaust Center at 751-6040.

## Members' Yahrzeits

9	Jack Jacobs
13	David Delroy
14	Thomas Yazman
17	Nanci Stern
19	Allan Altman
21	James Perkins
24	David Loeb

## Join Us!

**First Annual Kadimah Walk-a-Thon**  
**Sunday • May 16 • 10:30 am**

## Kadimah Korner

—David Shneer, Educator

As usual, Kadimah is closing out the school year with a bang. We have a picnic, walkathon, music and dance all scheduled for our last four weeks of classes.

### Kadimah Classes

Kadimah meets at regular times through Wednesday, May 19. Our Closing Day Shavuot Picnic, Saturday May 22, will be from 11 am–1 pm at Dolores Park. The congregation is invited to join the school for a day in the park after services.

### Special Programs

*Parent Education:* Saturday, May 1 at 10 am. The topic will be interfaith parenting.

*Counting the Omer Walkathon:* On May 16, from 10:30 am–12:30 pm, Kadimah will hold our first annual Counting the Omer Walkathon.

*Kadimah Music Cooperative:* Are you interested in teaching our children music? Kadimah is beginning a music cooperative in which musically talented adults get together, learn music and then come to Kadimah to teach music to the children. This is an exciting addition to our Kadimah program and to adult education. Interested parties should contact the office.

## Tot Shabbat

Toddlers, preschoolers and their families are invited to celebrate Shavuot and Shabbat with Kadimah at their special end-of-the-year picnic in Dolores Park on Saturday, May 22, 11 am–1 pm. The afternoon will include a Tot Shabbat service, a picnic, play time and activities to learn about Shavuot.

## Kadimah Open House

Thinking about education for your children? What better place than our own Kadimah? Our school is expanding, and the programs now include dance, music, service leading and weekly Hebrew classes. We are holding an open house for all interested families on Saturday, May 15 from 10 am–noon. Come and sit in on classes, meet the teachers and join our school for the closing circle programs. Please call the CSZ office to RSVP.

## Raising Children in an Interfaith Family

Come discuss the challenges and enrichments of raising children in an interfaith family. A special guest will lead the discussion on this important and sensitive topic. All are welcome to attend this program designed especially for parents in interfaith families or prospective parents in interfaith relationships. The program is part of CSZ's monthly parent education series and will be held on May 1 at 10 am. Bagels, coffee and tea will be served. You may reserve childcare for pre-Kadimah aged children through the CSZ office.

## Shabbat Morning Torah Study

CSZ begins each Saturday morning with Torah study at 9:30 am. Join the small and informal group that shares bagels, coffee and ideas about the portion of the week. Torah study is a wonderful way to begin Shabbat morning and prepare for services. You don't need any Torah study experience to join the discussion.

## Counting the Omer Walkathon

On Sunday, May 16 from 10:30 am–12:30 pm, Kadimah will hold its first annual Counting the Omer Walkathon to support our children's educational programs. Because the walkathon falls during the middle of the omer—the 49 days between Pesakh and Shavuot—our students will be collecting sheaves of wheat for each lap that they walk. We need volunteers to help out on the day of the walkathon to hand out drinks, award prizes and keep an eye on the walkers. In addition, we need people to sponsor a walker. To volunteer, call the synagogue office. To sponsor a walker, check the sign-up sheet at the synagogue or call the office.

## Learn to Be a B'nei Mitzvah Mentor

CSZ has a tradition of pairing one of our prospective b'nei mitzvah students with an adult member of the congregation who works with the student as tutor, mentor and friend. We are currently recruiting tutors for our upcoming year and have just received a grant to create a training program to teach adults the skills they need to be b'nei mitzvah mentors.

Our program will begin in the fall and will include short, intensive courses in basic Hebrew, trope, how to teach children and an overview of the Sha'ar Zahav liturgy. If you have always wanted to work with children, but do not feel you have the Hebrew and Judaica skills to be a tutor, this program is meant for you.

Please contact the office for more information.

**AFIKOMEN**  
JEWISH BOOKS      GIFTS & ARTS

**Your Jewish Lifestyle Store**

3042 Claremont Avenue, (510) 655-1977

H  
Y  
C

## HAVURAH YOUTH CENTER

*Afterschool Enrichment Program for Grades K-5*

- Jewish programming
- Arts enrichment and recreational activities
- Warm and friendly environment
- Yellow school bus transportation from most SFUSD schools
- Financial aid available
- All families welcome!

**(415) 292-1250**  
**Jewish Community Center of SF**  
3200 California St. (at Presidio)

## Toda From Kulanu

Kulanu wants to thank you for the warm and joyous Shabbat evening we spent with you. It felt so nice to be part of a congregation that celebrates the Sabbath with such warmth and participation. We thank you all for the honor of lighting the Sabbath candles and for the lovely oneg. We hope we will be able to join you again in worship or celebration.

Gratefully,  
Kulanu ("all of us")  
Congregation Beth Am  
Los Altos Hills



## Anniversaries

1	Sheila Manalo and Solidad di Costa
2	Robin Leonard and Tory Weiser
3	Karen Erlichman and Jana Rickerson
15	Carrie Costello and Pekka Hall
15	Lisa Feldstein and Max Drukman
16	Ann Bauman and Kelly Thiemann
22	Phyllis and George Mintzer
24	Alison Scott and Alisa Weiner
29	Mark Freeman and Ken White
31	Ilana Bernstein and Diane Desmond



## Israeli Government Addresses Gay Jews

In an unprecedented move, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office sent an official letter to the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations (WCGLBJO). The letter warned the WCGLBJO of negative remarks about homosexuals recently made by the Palestinian police chief in an interview given to Hebrew-language newspapers. The letter from the Prime Minister's office was signed by the Deputy Director of the Communications and Policy Planning, and surprised the WCGLBJO. Vice President Lee Walzer noted that he did not remember ever before receiving such an official document from the government of Israel, and expressed satisfaction at the actual correspondence. "We are an integral part of the Jewish people, and there is no reason for the government of Israel not to keep us notified of various developments, as is customary with other Jewish organizations in the diaspora. We will be glad to continue receiving material and briefings on issues important to our communities."

## Shabbat Mornings

*continued from page 1*  
join our Kadimah families for a picnic in Dolores Park. (Bring along a bag lunch.) Led by Tiela Chalmers.

*May 29, Niggun Shabbat:* Observing Shabbat through meditation, with a backdrop of traditional Jewish music. This may not bear much resemblance to a standard shacharit service, but the morning will offer an opportunity for a different kind of spiritual experience. Led by Nicole Bloom.

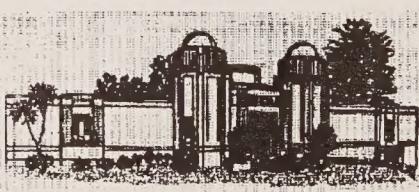
*June 5, Laughing on Shabbat:* Honoring the Jewish legacy of Groucho Marx and George S. Kaufman. The core elements of shacharit will be intermixed with Jewish humor, and discussions of the healing power of laughter. (Bring along humorous Jewish family stories.) Led by Henry Mach.

*June 12, Traditional Service:* Bar mitzvah of Micah Barth-Rogers.

*June 19, Tikkun Olam Shabbat:* How can we heal the world? How can we take a small step toward healing even a little piece of the world? A discussion intermixed with the core elements of a shacharit service. Led by Ora Prochovnik.

*June 26, Shabbat Freedom:* A special Shacharit for Pride Weekend.

The Ritual Committee is seeking congregants who would like to lead a Shabbat shacharit service, activity or observance. Contact Henry Mach at [henry@hanksite.com](mailto:henry@hanksite.com) or 863-4910.



**HILLS OF ETERNITY MEMORIAL PARK**  
*Serving families of the Jewish faith since 1851*  
Designated section for members of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
For information please call  
Stephen E. Weiner  
Director of Sales  
650/756-3633

## Are you on the Net?

Visit our web site at  
[www.shaarzahav.org](http://www.shaarzahav.org)

**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

**CULLUM & SENA**

Divorce, Custody & Support  
Relationship Agreements  
Wills & Living Trusts  
Small Business  
Auto Accidents  
Discrimination

**HUMAN RIGHTS**  
"The Cornerstone of Our Practice"  
Free Initial Consultation

45 POLK STREET SECOND FLOOR SF CA 94102  
PHONE 415 . 863 . 5300 FAX 415 . 863 . 8596

**ROBERT TAT** *Fine Collectible Photographs & Books*

**FINE PHOTOGRAPHS**  
Classic Images by Vintage & Modern Artists

**FOUND IMAGES**  
Charming & Affordable

415 . 861 . 2350

Earnings Devoted to Philanthropy

## SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL CHEVRA KADISHA

San Francisco ... 1501 Divisadero Street at Geary  
(415) 921-3636

East Bay ... 3415 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette  
(510) 284-3945

Gene B. Kaufman, Executive Director

## Naches

To **David Stein**, on his new position as Executive Director of the Holocaust Center of Northern California.

To **Phyllis Mintzer**, who was named one of six Reform Educators, or "moreh derekh" (teacher of the way), of the year.

To **Judy Macks**, on the opening of her new coaching and consulting business, The Macks Group, specializing in business and life transition.

To **Gordon Osser**, on the birth of his first grandchild, Michael Logan Osser, born March 10, 1999.

To **Michael Sieradzki**, on his new position at Landels Ripley & Diamond.

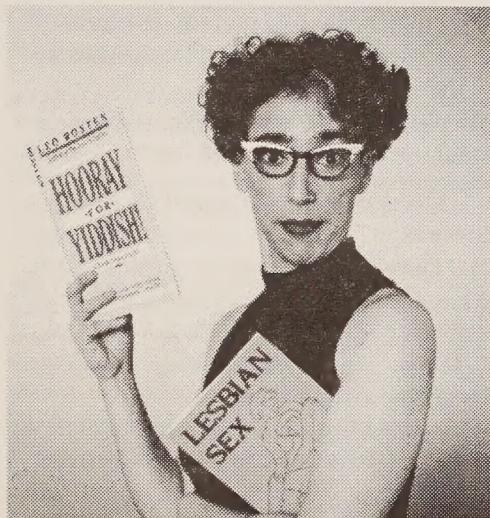
To **Ruby Cymrot-Wu**, on her acceptance to Lick-Wilmerding High School.

To **Micah Barth-Rogers**, on his acceptance to Lick-Wilmerding High School.

To **Rabbi Yoel Kahn**, who will be awarded his Ph.D. from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley this month.

To **Neil Hart**, on being honored by Pacific Masters Swimming Committee for raising nearly \$5,000 for the Swim Against Hate campaign.

To **Carrie Yang Costello**, on her position as Professor of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.



**JUNE FORWARD DEADLINE  
MONDAY, MAY 3**

### ADVERTISING

To place a display ad, call Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or [froslyn@earthlink.net](mailto:froslyn@earthlink.net)). To place a classified ad, call the office.

## Reform Judaism Principles

Last fall, *Reform Judaism* magazine covered the "Ten Principles for Reform Judaism," which generated extensive discussion throughout the Reform and wider Jewish community. The spring 1999 issue of *Reform Judaism* continued the debate with a thorough, spirited discussion of the issues with letters to the editor, a college students' debate, insights from the UAHC Board, an update from CCAR President Rabbi Richard Levy and a response from UAHC President Rabbi Eric Yoffie.

If you'd like to participate in the discussion or read all about it, visit the UAHC's website devoted to the topic: <http://uahc.org/tenpri.html>. To read a sampling of the letters sent to *Reform Judaism*, visit <http://uahc.org/rjmag/399.html>.

The changing approach to mitzvot and tradition in Reform Judaism are examined in *Duties of the Soul: The Role of Commandments in Liberal Judaism*, a new publication from the UAHC Press. Edited with an introduction by Niles E. Goldstein and Peter S. Knobel, *Duties of the Soul* is a compilation of 13 essays by Reform rabbis and educators. At a time when Reform Judaism is charting a new course for its future, the essayists respond with a call for balancing religious obligation with the principles of Reform theology. To order a copy, call 888/489-8242 or visit <http://www.uahcpress.com>.

### Oneg Sponsors

These generous people sponsored the Oneg Shabbat in recent weeks:

4/2 **Katherine Bauer**, in honor of her granddaughter, Renée Bauer.  
4/16 **Ira Hirschfield**, in loving memory of his brother, Jack Hirschfield.

### ARTICLES

Please submit articles via e-mail to [robinl@nolo.com](mailto:robinl@nolo.com). If you do not have e-mail, please submit them on a 3½-inch disk and mail to CSZ. *No late submissions will be accepted without prior approval of the Forward editor.*



## Birthdays

1 Yeva Johnson  
1 Aaron Richardson  
2 Rena Frantz  
3 Sean Hornby-Finch  
3 Julie Stahl  
4 Eileen Dunn  
4 Jeffrey Rubin  
5 Colette Patt  
6 Aaron Buchbinder  
6 Henry Carrey  
6 Alison Scott  
8 Paul Nemrow  
8 Shelley Samuels  
9 Anya Nathanson-Tell  
9 Ruth Newstat Dreisbach  
10 Susan Gonzalez  
10 Gabriele Kassner  
10 Robert Senter  
12 Kailin Koch  
13 Lezlie Frishman  
13 Douglas Okun  
13 Mark Reisbaum  
14 Judith Metcalf  
14 Claire Rappoport  
14 Kevin Slavin  
15 Melissa Grossman-Naples  
15 Arnie Jackson  
16 Inbal Kashtan  
16 Stanley Saitowitz  
16 Edward Tanovitz  
17 Antoinette Rose  
17 David Schnur  
18 Yona Barth-Rogers  
18 David Stein  
20 Lillian Schaechner  
20 Richard Wilson  
21 Michael Potter  
21 Gerald Rosenstein  
22 Marilyn Brown  
22 Leora Eisenberg  
22 Janis Medina  
22 Connie Tell  
23 Barbara Cymrot  
23 Nancy Feinstein  
24 Sam Messler  
26 Robert Katz  
26 Harper Rose  
27 Nancy Epstein  
28 Sherie Koshofer  
29 Trudi Hauptman  
29 David Sigal  
30 Shelley Eisenman  
30 Mark Gershman  
30 Eloise Magenheim



## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

Rachel Lanzerotti

Rachel Kriegman

Daniel Kodmur

Kirby Haujinz

We are grateful that our congregation continues to grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

## Condolences

We extend our condolences to members who have suffered recent losses:

**Bernard Pechter**, on the death of his friend, Tom Sinclair.

**Chaya Rivka Mayerson**, on the death of her great-aunt, Ruth Wolf.

**Connie Tell**, on the death of her father, Norman Tell.

**Deena Lahn**, on the death of her mother, Anita Lahn.

**Susan Tubbasing**, on the death of her friend, Pat Coty.

**Rachel MacLachlan**, on the death of her grandmother, Mary Jane Greve.

**Michael Chertok**, on the death of his great-aunt, Heddy Wasserman.

**Mark Shoenberg**, on the death of his father, Itzie Schoenberg.

**Trudi Hauptman**, on the death of her aunt, Anne Finkelstein.

## Health and Aging

CSZ member Antoinette Rose, M.D. will lead three seminars on different aspects of health and aging. The starting point of the discussions will be concerns that arise as one gets older. The three seminars will be focused loosely as follows: "Primarily Women," on Saturday, May 22 at 10:30 am; "Primarily Men," on Saturday, June 19 at noon; and "Finally...Women and Men," a discussion of health and illness at the end of life, on Saturday, July 17 at noon. All will take place at CSZ.

Dr. Rose has a general internal medicine practice in Mountain View. She has led similar seminars in the past for both gay and straight audiences in the South Bay.

## Contributions

### *Bikkur Cholim Fund*

**Renée Bauer and Jennifer Hirsch**, in honor of Patricia Lin for her wisdom and courage.

### *Children's Education Fund*

**Janet Witkin**, in honor of Sean Michael Martin-Hamberger.

### *General Fund*

**Shelley Adler**, in memory of Shoshana Adler.

**Adrienne**, in honor of Henri Nielsen's entrance into the Covenant.

**John Atteridg**, in memory of Katie Atteridg.

**Marjorie Bennett**, in memory of Shayna Fayga.

**Allan Berenstein**, in memory of Eli Hassid.

**Allan Berenstein**, in memory of Max Radetsky.

**Leonard Brill**.

**Mike Bromberg and Kenneth Repp**.

**James Carlson**, in memory of Richard Roginski.

**Seth Charney**, in memory of Nettie Charney.

**Daniel Chesir and Stefan Rowniak**, in memory of Judy Wexler.

**Leonie Darwin**, in honor of Alex Ingersoll's birthday.

**Marshall and Betty Denenberg**, in honor of Kulana at Congregation Beth Am.

**Josh Dorf**, in honor of the birth of Hazel Olson-Dorf.

**Nancy Epstein**, in memory of Marilyn Epstein Levine.

**Nancy Epstein**, in memory of Erwin Epstein.

**Jim Frazin**, in memory of Morris L. Shapiro.

**Steven and Anne Freeman**, in memory of Judy Wexler.

**Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart**, in memory of Judy Wexler.

**Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart**, in memory of Sylvia Rankin Sanders.

**Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart**, in honor of Diana Buchbinder and the Va'ad.

**David Gary**, in honor of Henri Nielsen's entrance into the covenant.

**Michael Gitt and George Gibson**, in memory of Ira Kulkin.

**Alex Ingersoll and David Stein**, in memory of Judy Wexler.

**Rose Katz**, in memory of Marvin J. Katz.

**Carol and Jordan Levitin**, in memory of Ron Wilmot.

**Edward Lopatin**, in memory of Paul Anderson.

**Edward Lopatin**, in memory of Aaron Lopatin.

**Mark Mackler**, in honor of the birth of Jeremy Goldwasser.

**Julie Moed**, in memory of Lil Moed.

**Henri Nielson**, in honor of Paul Cohen for his inspiration.

**Henri Nielson**, in honor of Patti Moskovitz for an exciting study.

**Gerald B. Rosenstein**.

**Bernard Schertzer**.

**Jeffrey Sherman**, in memory of Philip Sherman.

**Miriam Stombler and Kevin Kelem**, in honor of Tiela Chalmers for conducting the naming ceremony for their daughters.

**Michele Sullivan**, in memory of Marion LeMeteyer.

**Susan Tubbasing**, in memory of Ann Kohout.

**Kyle West**, in memory of Esther Bratz.

**Shirley and Gerald Zaid**, in honor of Lauren Augusta's entrance into the Covenant.

**Mike Zimmerman**, in memory of Judy Wexler.

### *Inclusive Liturgy Fund*

**Batya Kalis**, in memory of Judy Wexler.

### *Social Action Fund*

**Allan Berenstein**, in memory of Isabel Fishman.

**Steve Elman and Tom Holt**, to support CSZ's efforts at Sukkot in April.

**Pamela Miller**, to sponsor ten volunteers for Sukkot in April.

**Lisa Ochs**, in honor of Jeff Rubin.

**Jody Patraka and Rachel Shochet**, to sponsor the Purim lunch for seniors in the Tenderloin.

**Eli Weinstein**, in honor of Barak Gale's efforts to save the Headwaters.

### *Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign*

**Steve Neff**.

**Hal Podgur**, in memory of Mollie Podgur.

**Alan and Ann Posner**, in honor of David Posner's receiving his Ph.D. from U.C. Davis.

**Jacob and Gina Rothman**.

**Alice and Bill Russell-Shapiro**, to dedicate the entrance arbor in honor of Bernard Pechter.

### *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

**Henry Carrey**, in memory of Fra'hdil Herman Post.

**Henry Carrey**, in memory of Neil Stansky.

**Henry Carrey**, in memory of David Carrey.

**Valerie Joseph**, in honor of Alan Ferrara's sermon.

**Ira and Lois Rubin**, in honor of the naming of Maya Devorah Rubin-Wish.

Special thanks to **Lucy Bernholz** and **Paula Fleischer** for the planting of the flowering jasmine in the entrance arbor.

## Classifieds

BISEXUAL FEMALE/MALE COUPLE seeking 1-2 co-parents with whom to create family, share parenting resources, extend community. We are open to biological or adopted children, are politically progressive, working class backgrounds, into alternative, creative family structures. Call Louisa @ 584-8475 or Jim @ 337-4566.

NICE JEWISH GIRL RELOCATING to San Francisco from NYC seeks housing. Flexible as to rental, share or sublet and also as to the move in date. Stable, employed and reliable. Local references available. Please contact Lea Salem in the CSZ office for more information.

WEBSITE DESIGN, PRODUCTION, and Management. Experienced editor, graphic artist and webmaster can create a professional web presence for your business or organization—stressing communications, presentation and craftsmanship. Contact Henry at 863-4910 or [henry@hanksite.com](mailto:henry@hanksite.com).

CSZ TEEN looking for babysitting and mother's helper work. Call G. Lindsey at 334-4784 for information.

CO-PARENTING OPPORTUNITY DESIRED: I am a 42-year old established, professional, Jewish, gay man living in San Francisco who eagerly seeks a lesbian (or lesbian couple) for the co-parenting of a child. Details of our shared responsibilities, both custodial and financial, are flexible. I believe it's very important to have a healthy balance amongst cultural, spiritual, open-minded family and community values. Becoming a parent has been my dream ever since I can remember. How about with you?... If so, please contact me at 282-5577.

SEARCHING FOR SHARE RENTAL: Former CSZ member Bill Ashley-Dobbin is looking to come home. I am a gay 54-year-old nonsmoker living on a fixed income. I can pay about \$300 per month. After laughter contact me at 285-3607.

LESBIAN COUPLES with one child needed for dissertation research on couple relationship and decision-making regarding having another child. Participation involves completing questionnaires. For information, please call 415/273-7252 or email [ddesmond@sirius.com](mailto:ddesmond@sirius.com).

CO-PARENT WANTED: I am a 34-year-old warm, educated, financially secure, CSZ member who will make a great dad. Looking for a woman or couple in the area interested in co-parenting. Flexibility, communication, stability, and raising the child in a loving and nurturing environment key. Call 415/552-9212.

OUR FAMILY IS GROWING & we need more space! We are current CSZ members who are expecting the arrival of our first child in April 1999. We are desperately seeking an affordable two bedroom flat, apartment or house to rent. Please call Ellen & Stephanie at 415/285-3626 or 415/552-6734 with any possible leads.

ALL THINGS MACINTOSH: Troubleshooter for hire! Solve mysterious freezes. Improve performance. Software support, tutoring and more. Roslyn, 510/526-1209.

TROPICAL PARADISE—Kauai vacation rental: 2 cottages & 1 bedroom house on private drive sharing lush garden. Centrally located. Call Sandy Meyers (808/822-7537) or e-mail [sand@aloha.net](mailto:sand@aloha.net).

## Synagogue Information

### Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103-2262  
861-6932 (voice); 861-6081 (fax)  
[office@shaarzahav.org](mailto:office@shaarzahav.org) (email)  
<http://www.shhaarzahav.org> (web)

### Officers:

*President*, Diana Buchbinder  
(337-6319, [threebuchs@sprynet.com](mailto:threebuchs@sprynet.com), or [president@shaarzahav.org](mailto:president@shaarzahav.org))  
*First Vice President*, David Gellman  
*Second Vice President*, Susan Tubbesing

*Treasurer*, Arthur Slepian  
*Recorder*, Joe Hample

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Ellie Cohen  
Jeff Forman  
Sarita Giroisser  
Sara Haber  
Lisa Katz  
Robin Leonard  
Eileen Levy  
Jacob Rothman  
David Stein (ex officio)  
Robert Tat

### CSZ Staff:

*Educator*, David Shneer  
on leave  
*Administrator*, Lea Salem  
[office@shaarzahav.org](mailto:office@shaarzahav.org)  
*Program Director*, Renée Bauer  
[programdirector@shaarzahav.org](mailto:programdirector@shaarzahav.org)  
*Kadimah Head Teacher*, Phyllis Mintzer  
*Administrative Assistant*, Melanie Kushnir  
*Youth Advisor*, Meredith Fenton

*Dues Liaison*, Eric Temple  
*East Bay Havurah*, Ida Kuluk and Larry Wexler  
*Endowment Fund*, Merry Luskin  
*Environmental Action*, Barak Gale and Brian Besser  
*Finance*, Arthur Slepian  
*Fine Arts*, Robert Guterman  
*Gift Shop*, Jeff Rubin  
*La'atid*, Geoff Benjamin  
*Leadership Development*, Paul Cohen

### Committee Chairs:

*Adult Education*, Sue Bojdak  
*Archives*, open  
*ARZA contact*, Ron Lezell  
*Baby Chavurah*, Melissa and Ari Grossman-Naples  
*Bequests and Donations*, Richard Inlander  
*Bikkur Cholim*, David Shaber  
*Bisexual Havurah*, Jim Frazin  
*Book Group*, Mark Mackler  
*Building and Grounds*, Arthur Cohen  
*Bylaws*, Edward Pollock  
*Cemetery*, Richard Inlander  
*Children's Education Board*, Ruth Rainero  
*Cookbook Project*, Robin Leonard  
*Dor Rishon*, open

*Library*, Joan Goldman  
*Long-Range Planning*, Allan Gold  
*Membership*, Ami Zusman  
*Newsletter*, Robin Leonard  
*Past Presidents Council*, Merry Luskin  
*Personnel*, David Gellman  
*Public Relations*, Sharyn Saslafsky  
*Ritual*, Lyssa Friedman  
*Social Action*, Laura Lowe and Allan Berenstein  
*Toddler/Pre-school Havurah*, Ilana Bernstein  
*UAHC National Liaison*, Mike Rankin  
*UAHC Regional Liaison*, Daniel Chesir  
*WCGLBJO Liaison*, Neil Grungras  
*Women's Havurah*, open

*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.*

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

**Member** of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.

<b>1</b> Saturday 15 Iyar	<b>9</b> Sunday 23 Iyar	<b>17</b> Monday 2 Sivan	<b>23</b> Sunday 8 Sivan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30 am, Kadimah</li> <li>• 9:30 am, Torah study</li> <li>• 10 am, Parent Education program: Interfaith Parenting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 pm, Healing service</li> <li>• 7 pm, Membership committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 pm, Healing service</li> <li>• 7 pm, Membership committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Habitat for Humanity workday</li> <li>• 11 am, Dor Rishon trip to Jack London Square</li> </ul>
<b>2</b> Sunday 16 Iyar	<b>10</b> Monday 24 Iyar	<b>18</b> Tuesday 3 Sivan	<b>24</b> Monday 9 Sivan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4-6 pm, New Member Potluck</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting</li> <li>• 7 pm, Newsletter layout and proofreading</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 pm, Kadimah Hebrew class</li> <li>• 6 pm, Omer meditation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 am, Dor Rishon trip to Jack London Square</li> </ul>
<b>3</b> Monday 17 Iyar	<b>11</b> Tuesday 25 Iyar	<b>19</b> Wednesday 4 Sivan	<b>25</b> Tuesday 10 Sivan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 pm, Kadimah Hebrew class</li> <li>• 6 pm, Omer meditation</li> </ul>	<b>12</b> Wednesday 26 Iyar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 pm, Kadimah Hebrew class</li> <li>• 6 pm, Omer meditation</li> </ul>	<b>26</b> Wednesday 11 Sivan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lag BaOmer</li> <li>• 6:30 pm, Dues committee</li> </ul>	<b>13</b> Thursday 27 Iyar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6:30 pm, Siddur committee</li> </ul>	<b>27</b> Thursday 12 Sivan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 pm, Kadimah Hebrew class</li> <li>• 6 pm, Omer meditation</li> <li>• 7 pm, Newsletter editing</li> </ul>	<b>14</b> Friday 28 Iyar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 pm, Shavuot potluck</li> <li>• 8 pm, Shavuot service, led by Ora Prochovnick and Daniel Chesir</li> <li>• 9 pm-midnight, Tikkun Leyl Shavuot</li> </ul>	<b>28</b> Friday 13 Sivan
<b>5</b> Wednesday 19 Iyar	<p>Yom Yerushalim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:15 pm, Niggun service, led by Jhos Singer</li> <li>• 7:53 pm, Candle lighting</li> <li>• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Barnidbar, led by Dev Felder Noily, Daniel Chesir and Micah Barth-Rogers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:05 pm, Candle lighting</li> <li>• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Naso, led by Michael Sarid (né Sieradzki) and Lyssa Friedman</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30 am, Torah study</li> <li>• 10 am, Niggun Shabbat, led by Nicole Bloom</li> </ul>
<b>6</b> Thursday 20 Iyar	<b>15</b> Saturday 29 Iyar	<b>21</b> Friday 6 Sivan	<b>29</b> Saturday 14 Sivan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat service, led by Sarita Groisser</li> <li>• 7:47 pm, Candle lighting</li> <li>• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Behar/Behukkotai; New Member Welcome</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30 am, Kadimah</li> <li>• 9:30 am, Torah study</li> <li>• 10 am, Ecology Shabbat, led by Barak Gale</li> <li>• 3 pm, HIV+ support group</li> </ul>	<p>First Day of Shavuot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 pm, East Bay service</li> <li>• 7:59 Candle lighting</li> <li>• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Shavuot, led by Rabbi Litman</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30 am, Torah study</li> <li>• 10 am, Niggun Shabbat, led by Nicole Bloom</li> </ul>
<b>7</b> Friday 21 Iyar	<b>16</b> Sunday 1 Sivan	<b>22</b> Saturday 7 Sivan	<b>30</b> Sunday 15 Sivan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 am, Ron Wilmot Bike Ride Shabbat service</li> <li>• 9:30 am, Kadimah</li> <li>• 9:30 am, Torah study</li> <li>• 10 am, Shabbat service, led by Alan Gordon, Howard Steierman and Micah Barth-Rogers; Torah chanting by Michael Schwartz</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10:30 am, Kadimah Counting the Omer Walk-a-thon, Dolores Park</li> <li>• 3 pm, Lesbians and the Holocaust, Victoria Theatre, co-sponsored with the Holocaust Center</li> <li>• 3 pm, Congregational meeting</li> </ul>	<p>Second Day of Shavuot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30 am, Torah study</li> <li>• 10 am, Shabbat Kumsitz, led by Tiela Chalmers</li> <li>• 10:30 am, Health and Aging: Primarily Women, with Dr. Antoinette Rose</li> <li>• 11 am, Kadimah Shavuot picnic</li> </ul>	<b>31</b> Monday 16 Sivan

Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.

## East Bay Services

May 21, 7 pm,  
at the home of Jerry  
Geffner, 7141 Pinehaven  
Road, Oakland,  
510/653-3137.